

Week 7, Term 2, June 14, 2019 / Alberton Avenue, Mt Albert, Auckland 1025 / +64 9 846 2044 / www.mags.school.nz

From the Acting Headmaster

Being Part of Team MAGS



Standing on the sidelines watching different MAGS teams battling the elements last weekend emphasised the worth of our sporting pillar and the value gained as an individual when part of a team.

Each weekday, students and staff don respective uniforms, walk or drive through our

gate and assemble as Mount Albert Grammar School or 'Team MAGS'.

So, across this week the notion of Team MAGS has been explored.

A team shares common goals, works hard and trains hard together. A team supports each other. A team cares.

Monday's thought for the week for MAGS staff was: 'The strength of the team is each individual member. The strength of each individual member is the team' – Phil Jackson.

MAGS staff are a great team working together to set expectations, focus on best learning outcomes and best levels of achievement. MAGS students, too, form various different teams – class, level, cultural, arts, sports – across their week.

If we can foster a positive team culture across all these varying contexts, we all win.

At assemblies, students have been asked to consider the quality of their individual contribution to their various team contexts. And have been challenged to work with their teachers and classmates to create positive learning environments to, in turn, achieve both best individual and best team results.

Some days, as individuals, we can't find our best game. But belonging to a team is about knowing that on those tough days, we have teammates who have brought theirs, who set the standard and get us back on track – whether on the field, court, stage or in the classroom.

We each need to be that team player we would choose for our team.

Weekly Notices



Click <u>here</u> for the 2019 Calendar

Tuesday, 18 June and Wednesday, 19 June Year 13 Drama production *The Good Woman of Setzuan,* 7pm, E9

Thursday, 20 June and Friday, 21 June Year 13 Drama production *Ophelia Thinks Harder*, 7pm, E9



Friday, June 21 Quiz Night, 6.30pm, F.W. Gamble Hall





Fixtures and results Click <u>here</u>

Juniors win Science Bowl



The winning Junior team of (from left) Cole Hickey, Matthew Batcheler, Rosa Jack and Xander Pritchard.

MAGS' Junior team won at the North Island Secondary Schools Science Bowl Tournament held at Auckland Grammar last Friday.

And team member Cole Hickey took home the trophy for the most questions answered correctly over the competition.

In the Junior division, MAGS won narrowly, beating Auckland Grammar in a tense final. The Senior team of Vaibhav Nayyar, Alexander Pullen, Nikita Privavlov and Giles Paton-Simpson did well reaching the semi-finals where they were beaten by Auckland Grammar. The North Island Secondary Schools Science Bowl Tournament seeks to provide an event for some of the most intellectual secondary school students in the North Island to come together and compete against one another in a relatively low-stakes environment. The students answer questions from a range of Science and Mathematic topics, eliminating teams as the tournament progresses.

Moon Stars win again





For the third year in a row, the Moon Stars have won the same award at the Auckland round of the NZ Chamber Music Contest.

The octet won Best Performance of an Original Composition for *Gone* by group member Mathew Somerville. Matthew had originally written *Gone* as a

rock song but later arranged it for the chamber group.

Group members (at top, left to right) are: Helen Wen and Daniel Zhang (1st violins), Grace Duan (2nd violin), Kate Ploeg (viola), Mekal Covic (cello), Lars Landicho (double bass), Matthew Somerville (percussion) and Stefan Moon (percussion).

There were two other MAGS groups competing at the contest. Three of Six (at left) – a piano trio of (from left) twins Carl and Kitty Mu and

Alexander Pullen playing on one piano – entered the Newcomers category as well as the main competition. Their teacher is Jenny Jung (our Chamber Orchestra director). The second group, Haydn Trio, have worked with Joy Gilbert (our music and cello teacher). Eric Shen (piano), Helen Wen (violin) and Mekal Covic (cello) also entered in the Newcomers category, as well as the main competition.

Special performances at YouDance



MAGS' dancers shone at the 9th annual YouDance youth dance festival concerts, held over three nights at the Raye Freedman Arts Centre in Epsom.

Forty two of our Dance students were involved in this year's concerts.

Representing MAGS this year were two group choreographies by HOD Dance Sam French. The first, Year 12 Dance *Famili*, a Pasifika fusion piece, was a fantastic opening to the Thursday show and enthusiastically received by the audience.

The Year 13 dance *Zigadi* was based on the idea of gypsies and brought colour and joy to the programme. This was a featured dance on both Wednesday and Thursday. Three student choreographies were also chosen to represent MAGS and each was outstanding and received excellent reviews from the invited professionals who were present to offer feedback to the students.

The first was *Day In Day Out* choreographed and performed by Year 12 student Eden Matthews. This and the Year 12 boys piece *Journeys Around the Sun* – choreographed and performed by Marcus Savelio, Jahvarn Islam and Woody Sabanhdit – were featured in all three shows.

Another choreography – *Align* by Christelle Ridon – was featured in the Wednesday programme.

And four MAGS dancers – Charlotte Barrand, Bethany Fletcher, Jahvarn Islam and Faith Pillissi – were selected to perform as part of the Trip The Light youth company, which closed the show each night with a compelling dance about *HOPE*.



Ethics Olympiad debut



From left: Arnav Bhatiani, Devendra Johnston, Greeshma Kasuganti, Nishera Gnanendra, Tabea Leonhardt, Hellen Ding, Deboprana Mallick, Manas Chigurukota and Max Davison. Absent: Vivienne Wong.

Ten students from 10AHN and 10PNE represented MAGS at the Auckland Ethics Olympiad held at Diosecean School for Girls last Saturday.

This was the first time we entered this Australasian competition based on American Ethics Bowls.

The Ethics Olympiad encourages critical thinking, civil discourse, teamwork, clear communication, and the competition of ideas. It required collaboration, deep-level thinking and the formation of well-reasoned arguments. It was a unique opportunity for our students to engage about ethics in a non-intimidating and team-focused environment. Our MAGS teams scored an average of 47 points out of 60, placing them 6th out of 19 schools in the region – an impressive feat for Year 10s with little experience of this sort of competition and up against a lot of seniors.

New Board of Trustees announced

MAGS has a new Board of Trustees following the election. The seven elected parent representatives are **Raj Bhikha, Tui Gallagher, Simon Mitchell, Paul Moon, Greg Moyle, Catherine Murphy** and **Neil Waka**. **Malcolm Nuttall** was re-elected as MAGS' staff representative. The board's first meeting is on Wednesday, June 26. Click <u>here</u> for the full results.

Arts Update



WEEK 9 - MUSIC CONCERTS

On Monday, 24 June, **On the Move** will be an evening of contemporary and urban music featuring the Jazz Band, Contemporary Choir, Smokefree RockQuest finalists Brolo and Borderline, and special guests.

On Tuesday, 25 June, **Night of the Classics** will be an evening of classical music featuring MAGS symphonic, string and chamber orchestras with boys choir and guests.

Both concerts are at 7pm at the Raye Freedman Arts Centre.

Tickets can be brought for both concerts through ITicket <u>here</u> with a discount if attending both events.

LOOKING FORWARD TO TERM 3

In Week 2, on Thursday, 1 August, the biannual Unity Cultural Concert will take place at 7pm at the Dorothy Winstone Theatre, at AGGS. Ticket details to come.



Year 13 Drama Productions

Next week, Year 13 Drama students will be putting on two thought-provoking productions over two nights each.

They will be staged in the E9 Drama Room at 7pm on all four nights.

The Good Woman of Setzuan plays on Tuesday, 18 June and Wednesday, 19 June. It explores the story of a woman who wants to lead a good life but needs to adopt a male alter ego in order to achieve that.

Ophelia Thinks Harder plays on Thursday, 20 June and Friday, 21 June, and is a reworking of Shakespeare's *Hamlet* that examines attitudes about sex, sexuality and society. Tickets on sale at the door. Adults \$10, MAGS staff and students \$5.

Quiz Night is back!

Sharpen your wits and get working on a dress-up theme because MAGS' fun-filled Annual Quiz Night returns on Friday, June 21.

As always, there will be lots of laughs and plenty of prizes on offer when the quiz kicks off in the F.W. Gamble Hall at 6.30pm.

There will also be food and beverages provided on the night. Proceeds from the night go to the Mental Health Foundation.



RockQuest success



Borderline won the People's Choice Award at the Auckland Regional finals of Smokefree RockQuest last weekend and now have a chance to go through to the National Final. Borderline (pictured above) is comprised of MAGS students Matthew McFadden, Sam Tebbutt, Jackson Boswell and Sam Mandeno-Clay, and Mt Roskill Grammar's Isaiah Stitt. They now have the challenge of putting together a 12-minute performance video that goes before a judging panel that selects the top 30 acts from across the country. This is then whittled down by another judging panel to a top 10 who are invited to perform at the National Finals.



Parent-Subject Teacher Interviews

On Wednesday, 26 June and Thursday, 27 June (Week 9), MAGS will be holding Parent & Subject Teacher Interviews for Year 9 through to Year 13 from 3.30pm-7pm on both days. Parents should now have received full details with the interview login code so they can make bookings. If you have not received these details or are having problems making a booking, please contact Deputy Principal Tanya Rose trose@mags.school.nz In addition, reports for Year 9 through to Year 13 will be available via the KAMAR portal by the end of next week (Week 8) so they can be discussed at the interviews.

Teacher strike action cancelled next week

The PPTA has cancelled the rolling regional strike action next week that would have seen all MAGS students stay home next Monday, June 17. All students are now expected at school on Monday to attend normal classes.

However, more strike action is still possible depending on the outcome of ongoing negotiations between the PPTA and the Government.

As previously advised, please see below the dates of scheduled action still in place:

Tuesday, 25 June Tuesday, 2 July Year 11 Students rostered home - all other levels attend Year 12 Students rostered home - all other levels attend

You will be advised as soon as possible should there be any subsequent changes to the actions as proposed.

Invite to Albertians Luncheon



The next Albertians Luncheon will be held on on Thursday, 27June at 12.30pm for a 1pm start at School House.

A welcome by Acting Headmaster Jo Williams will be followed by a presentation by some of our students.

The cost of the lunch is \$30 per person, which is payable online (details below).

Alternatively, you can pay by cash, cheque or eftpos as you arrive at School House on the day.

Online payment details: MAGS Albertians Association, ASB Bank, **Account Number: 12 3029 0376398 00** *Ref: Your First and Last Name*

RSVP: by Monday, 17 June to:

Emma John, Event Manager via email: <u>events@mags.school.nz</u> Phone: (09) 846-2044 extn: 8198 (please leave a message)

As we get closer to our centenary in 2022, we warmly invite all Albertians to attend, so please do encourage your friends and peers who were with you at MAGS to attend with you and to register their name and email address by RSVP to <u>events@mags.school.nz</u> Car parking is unavailable on school grounds, but drop-off at the front of School House is fine.

International Food & Culture Evening



The ever-popular International Food & Culture Evening returns – on Friday, June 28 at 6pm in the F.W. Gamble Hall.

There will be a smorgasbord of food and entertainment on the night, which is being organised by the International Committee.

A wide range of food will be available; last year saw guests feasting on Japanese, Vietnamese, Thai, Mexican, Chinese, Middle Eastern and European cuisine.

International students will also perform cultural and contemporary items.

World Challenge trip



Applications are now open for students who are interested in the July 2020 World Challenge trip to India/Himalaya.

The World Challenge programme offers students the opportunity to plan, fund and ultimately lead their own 21-day long expedition next year in northern India. MAGS has been running these successful student-leadership expeditions since 2010. You can get more information about the trip <u>here</u>

Sports update

Adithya called up again by NZ U19s

MAGS 1st XI Cricket Captain Adithya Ashok has been selected for the NZ U19 Squad to tour Australia.

The team will play four 50-over matches against Australia U19 in Brisbane early next month.

Legspinning all-rounder Adithya has put himself in the frame for the NZ U19 squad to play in the World Cup in South Africa early next year. Adithya was supposed to tour Bangladesh in April with the NZ U19s but that trip was cancelled.

Former test spinner Paul Wiseman, the programme lead for the U19s, told Stuff: "He [Adithya] is an exciting prospect. 'He spins it both ways and he's a little guy, only 16, and if he was to make this



[U19] World Cup, he'll end up playing two. He's got a great work ethic and can hold a bat. He'll end up a genuine allrounder."

Josh in NZ Water Polo team



Josh Eickhoff has been selected for the New Zealand U18 Men's Water Polo team. The NZ U18 Men and Women will compete in the 2019 Australian Interstate Championships to be held in Sydney, from 12-14 July. The inaugural competition will see New Zealand teams compete against some of the top

The inaugural competition will see New Zealand teams compete against some of the top Australian State sides in age group competition.

Swimming squad selections

On the back of great results at various championships this year, many MAGS swimmers have been selected for New Zealand or Auckland honours.

Bowen Crawford and Brearna Crawford have made the NZ team for the Australian State Teams Championships, and Brearna will be going to the FINA World Junior Swimming Championships.

Along with Edie Ancell, Bowen and Brearna have also been named in the Auckland Team for the Victorian State Championships



(short list). These are the Top 40 18-under swimmers in Auckland based on FINA points. And the following swimmers have been named in the 2019/20 Auckland Squad selections: Brearna Crawford, James Bilton, Vasilina Shipilova, Bowen Crawford, Lucy Woodall, Hunter Dobson, Edie Ancell, Bede Aitu and Eva Williams.

Three medals at Snow Sports



MAGS came away with three medals from the AKSS Ski and Snowboarding Championships held at Snowplanet yesterday.

Students only had one run to impress for each of the competitions, and then the top five were selected for the finals run in Snowboarding Slopestyle and Slalom, and Skiing Slopestyle and Slalom for Junior and Senior grades.

Sophie Johnson-Chung was second in the Senior Girls Snowboarding Slalom, Ronan Guthrie-Hoven placed third in Senior Boys Snowboarding Slalom, and Andre Pickering was third in the Ski Slopestyle.

The next event for the teams is the NZSS competition in September.

Upcoming Premier sport



Tonight, the Basketball Premier Boys are playing away against Macleans College at 7.30pm. The Basketball Premier Girls 6pm game scheduled at the same venue has been cancelled.

Tomorrow, the Netball Premiers play Macleans College at the Auckland Netball Centre at 11.30am.

Kicking off at noon tomorrow on MAGS 1, the Football Boys 1st XI have a tough game up against St Kentigern College.

And tomorrow the Rugby 1st XV have another chance to get their hands on the Moascar Cup when they play away to St Kentigern at 2.30pm.

On Monday, the Rugby Girls 10s are home to Papatoetoe High School at 4.15pm. Later that day, the Basketball Premier Boys and Girls are both playing away at St Mary's College, against Liston College at 6pm and St Mary's at 7.30pm respectively. The Hockey Boys 1st XI also have a game that day, against Takapuna at 7pm at Westlake Girls Hockey Turf. On Tuesday and Wednesday, the Premier Boys Squash are competing in the AKSS Champs. A critical encounter looms at home on Wednesday for the Rugby League 1st XIII as they take on St Paul's College at 4pm.

The Football Girls 1st XI are away to EGGS on Wednesday at 4pm. The same day, the Hockey Boys 1st XI play Avondale College at Avondale at 4.45pm.

On Thursday, the Lacrosse Premier Girls play away to Mt Roskill Grammar on Thursday at 4pm, and the Hockey Girls 1st XI play Marist at Avondale College at 5pm.

Fixtures and results on the MAGS website are regularly updated. For this week's, click <u>here</u> and for next week's, click <u>here</u>

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